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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Gentlemen;

This is in reply to your recent proposal NRPM 05-235, which, if approved, would completely eliminate the Morse code proficiency requirement for all Amateur Radio examinations.

The wording in the proposal is such that one could assume that after CW is eliminated from the examinations, it could be followed by eliminating CW on all the Amateur bands altogether.

Even though CW has been eliminated in the Military and Commercial communications, it does not become a requirement to do the same in Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio began with Morse code transmissions from a Spark-gap transmitter and not by Radiotelephony. CW is unique to "Ham" radio and denotes genuine Ham Radio and as such, it should be retained for the future of Ham Radio.

Other countries are gradually phasing out CW but we as Hams of the United States are not required to make the same mistakes that others are doing as Ham Radio originated in the U.S.A.

In times of emergency, Morse Code transmissions stand the best chance of getting through, while Radiotelephony fails.

If CW would ever be entirely eliminated from the Ham bands, there would be a "Mass Exodus" from our hobby of "Dyed-in-the-wool" "Brass Pounders", such as this writer. There are thousands of Hams that much prefer CW to Radiotelephony and don't even own a Mike. After this exodusy Ham Radio, as we now know it, would gradually wither and fade out. Is this what we want do do with our great hobby ?---I don't think so...

Down with NRPM 05-235 !

Respectfully,

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